

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7004

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, NI, BMEP

SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: LAGOS METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION
STUDY

REF: (A) JSBLODGETT MEMO TO FILES, JANUARY 25, 1974;
(B) STATE 258578

1. REF (A) REPORTED BROAD OUTLINES OF LAGOS TRANSPORTATION STUDY. ROD RYDLUN (USDOC/OIM) HAS COPY.
2. STUDY IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY WILBUR SMITH AND ASSOCIATES (PROJECT MANAGERS) ALONG WITH SVERDRUP AND PARCEL AND TWO NIGERIAN ENGINEERING FIRMS. TERMS OF REFERENCE IN CONTRACT WITH FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING CALL FOR STUDY TEAM TO: (A) REVIEW PAST STUDIES ON THIS SUBJECT (WHICH ARE NUMEROUS); (B) SUMMARIZE AND EVALUATE PAST STUDIES; (C) PREPARE INTERIM REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENTS; (D) PREPARE FINAL REPORT WITH RECOMMENATIONS FOR ACTION, FIRSTLY DURING PERIOD 1977-80, SECONDLY DURING POST-1980 PERIOD.
3. CONTRACT IS FOR ONE YEAR, AND SPECIFIES PAYMENT OF APPROX. DQMW MILLION, HALF IN DOLLARS, HALF IN NAIRA. STUDY WILL INVOLVE TOTAL OF 10-15 EXPATRIATES IN-COUNTRY, ON AND OFF.
4. ORIGINALLY, WAS ENVISAGED THAT CONTRACT WOULD BE SIGNED JANUARY 1974, TEAM WOULD BEGIN WORK MARCH 1974, FINAL

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REPORT PRESENTED JANUARY 1975, AND FMG APPROVAL MADE

APRIL 1975. DUE TO PREDICTABLE DELAYS, HOWEVER, CONTRACT WAS NOT SIGNED UNTIL AUGUST 1974; ONLY ONE TEAM MEMBER (SVERDRUP AND PARCEL) IS NOW IN COUNTRY; AND HE IS FIGHTING TO GAIN FMG APPROVAL FOR ENTRANCE OF REMAINING MEMBERS. ASSUMING TEAM IS IN PLACE WITH NEXT 2-3 MONTHS, CAN NOW EXPECT COMPLETED STUDY TOWARDS OF CY 1975.

5. ANY MAJOR COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM STUDY TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS, EVEN ASSUMING FMG DECIDES TO TAKE ACTION ON THEM, UNLIKELY TO SURFACE BEFORE 1976. IN MEANTIME SVERDRUP AND PARCEL, OF COURSE, HOPES TO MAKE USE OF ANY POSSIBLE TIE-IN THAT MIGHT HELP IT IN BID FOR RAIL-ROAD CONSULTANCY CONTRACT.
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